GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SURFACE TRANSPORT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:500
ANSWERED ON:28.02.2000
PROPOSAL FOR ACQUIRING VESSEL / SHIPS
BHUWAN CHANDRA AVSM (RETD.) KHANDURI

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Shipping Corporation of India (SCI) vessels/ships have become overage;

(b) whether the Shipping Corporation of India has put up proposals for acquiring/purchasing more ships;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether these proposals are pending with Ministry for over four years;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor;

(f) whether tenders had to be re-floated again and again by the Shipping Corporation of India due to non-receipt of clearance from the Government? (g) if so, the cost overruns as a result thereof so far; (h) whether the Government would fix responsibility for this delay and loss to the Public Exchequer; (i) if not, the reasons therefor; and (j) the time by which the proposals are likely to be cleared?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT

(DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN)
(a) No, Sir. The average age of SCI`s fleet is about 15 years.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) There are two proposals of Shipping Corporation of India Limited under process for acquisition of 7 vessels, i.e., 4 Aframax Tankers and 3 LR-II Crude Oil Tankers.
(d) No, Sir.
(e) Does not arise.
(f) No, Sir. However, in order to achieve the most competitive and advantageous price, SCI was asked in January, 2000 that all the four technical qualified shortlisted shipyards for Aframax Tankers be asked to tender their fresh commercial bids on the basis of specifications already given.
(g) The cost is not yet finalized on the basis of revised bids.

(h) Does not arise.

(i) Does not arise.
(j) No time could be fixed. Endeavour, however is to take investment decision at the earliest possible.